



COMPLETE SET OF PENDING CLAIMS

1. An animal excretions treating material comprises particles, each particle being composed of a core layer of fibers and a skin layer to cover the core layer, the skin layer containing α -starch and fibers.
2. (Amended) The animal excretions treating material as set forth in claim 1, wherein the fibers constituting the skin layer are short fibers having a mean fiber length in a range of 0.02 to 1 mm.
3. The animal excretions treating material as set forth in claim 1, wherein the mean particle size of the α -starch in the skin layer is at most 0.25 mm.
4. (Amended) The animal excretions treating material as set forth in claim 1, wherein the composition of the skin layer is in a ratio of a starch to fibers in a range of 20 to 80 and 80 to 20.
5. The animal excretions treating material as set forth in claim 1, wherein the fibers in the skin layer are those of pulp.

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6. The animal excretions treating material as set forth in claim 1, wherein the α -starch in the skin layer is tapioca starch.

7. The animal excretions treating material as set forth in claim 1, wherein the fibers in the core layer are those of pulp.

8. (Amended) The animal excretions treating material as set forth in claim 1, which has a bulk density in a range of 0.1 and 0.5 g/cm³.

9. (Amended) The animal excretions treating material as set forth in claim 1, the particle has a diameter in a range of 2 and 20 mm.